GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2681
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
SHORTAGE OF NURSES
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the health care system is suffering due to acute shortage of trained nurses in the country`

(b) if so, the estimated shortage of qualified nurses in the country, state-wise;

(c) the details of the availability of trained nurses in India per million population of patients and the comparative figures for USA, UK, China, Pakistan and Japan; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard:

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b): According to the information available, there is no shortage of trained nurses in the country. So far 8.65 lakh nurses have been registered with various State Nursing Councils in India.

(c): Availability of nurses per million population in India,USA, UK, China, Pakistan and Japan is as indicated below:

Country	Nurses per Million Population
India	450.00
USA	9720.00
UK	4970.00
China	980.6
Pakistan	340.00
Japan	7440.00

(d): Government have taken several steps to augment the availability of trained nurses. These include up gradation of Schools of Nursing and Colleges of Nursing, establishment of New Nursing Colleges, financial assistance to strengthen schools and colleges of nursing, organising continuing education programme for nursing personnel to upgrade their knowledge and skills etc.